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Dated: February 12, 2007 Signature: *Oliver T. Ong*
(Oliver T. Ong)

Docket No.: 06005/37170
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Michael D. APEL et al.

Application No.: 09/871,115

Confirmation No.: 9797

Filed: May 31, 2001

Art Unit: 2182

For: INPUT/OUTPUT DEVICE WITH
CONFIGURATION, FAULT ISOLATION
AND REDUNDANT FAULT ASSIST
FUNCTIONALLY

Examiner: Thanh Q. Nguyen

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated October 11, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on Page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 18 of this paper.